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had been almost exclusively the pursuit of animals or conflict with his neighbors, and in this connection he had become the inventor of weapons and traps, and in addition had learned the value of acting in concert with his companions. When game became scarce, man found himself forced to abandon his destructive and predaceous activities and adopt the settled occupations of woman. To these he brought inventive ability and a capacity for organized action, and in course of time he usurped the primacy of woman in the industrial pursuits, and eventually he reduced woman to "a condition of parasitism which, in our middle and so-called higher classes, has profoundly affected their physical, mental, and moral life." Professor Thomas is to be heartily commended for the manner in which he develops this theme with regard to the mental and moral characteristics of woman.

The foregoing remarks must not be considered in any way as indicating adverse criticism. We are all "feeling our way," and the present writer offers his sincere congratulations to his friend, the author of this valuable and stimulating contribution to sociological literature.

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*American Legislatures and Legislative Methods.* By PAUL E. S. REINSCH. New York: The Century Co., 1907. Pp. x + 337.

This volume contains a description and analysis of the methods of Congress and the state legislatures. The discussion of Congress is conducted by Dr. Steiner, while the state legislatures are examined by Professor Reinsch.

Due emphasis is placed in this volume on constitutional and statutory requirements, on rules of legislative bodies, and on judicial decisions interpretative of these formal regulations; but the important feature of the work is the attention given to the actual workings of legislative bodies.

It is important to know the constitutional and other legal facts regarding legislatures, but it is indispensable to know how the system really operates; for, as Professor Reinsch shows, there is often a wide gap between the theory of legislative action and the practice. It behooves students of politics to observe realities as

well as forms, and, since constitutions, statutes, and decisions do not tell the whole tale, to scrutinize the legislative phenomena themselves. This is a side of political science which has often been neglected or ignored for the study of the formal constitutional and legal facts, but it is beginning to receive attention commensurate to the importance of the subject. The fact that popular, and often sensational and unreliable, investigators have been allowed to lead the way in the study of political facts, pathological in nature, is not to the credit of political scientists. Studies like those of Haynes' *Representation in State Legislatures*, Goodnow on *Politics and Administration*, and now Reinsch's *American Legislatures*, indicate that the study of politics is to be in the future on more intimate terms with the actual facts. This does not involve neglect of constitutions, laws, or the decisions of courts, but the supplementing of such knowledge, to the end that a better understanding of the situation may be evolved.

Some of Professor Reinsch's conclusions indicate that he has carefully thought his way through the situation. Thus of the progressive governor he says: "The importance of the reform governors is based not so much upon their positions as heads of the administration, but upon their character as the authoritative interpreters of the public will" (p. 283). And again, in discussing the necessity of law-making based upon comprehensive information, he says: "Only gradually are the legislatures discovering the inadequacy of good intentions in this matter, as well as the necessity of conservative methods resting upon expert knowledge" (p. 313).

Errors of statement are difficult to avoid in a work covering so broad a field, and the following have been observed by the reviewer: The session limit in Delaware, North Carolina, and Rhode Island is not sixty days absolutely, but a limitation of compensation to sixty days (p. 131); while the limit in Nevada is not forty days, but sixty days. To the list of states in which the governor is granted power to veto separate items in appropriation bills, New Jersey should be added (p. 188). The question of calling a constitutional convention is no longer submitted every twenty years in Virginia, under the new constitution (p. 156). The limitation of the representation of New York is not that it "may never have over one-third of the legislature" (p. 199), but that "no two counties or the territory thereof as now organized, which are adjoining counties, or which are separated only by public waters, shall have more

than one-half of all the senators" (Art. III, sec. 4). The judges of the states of Georgia and Louisiana are no longer chosen by the legislature (p. 223), but are elected by the people. The act taking the appointment of the St. Louis police out of the hands of the governor of the state was vetoed by him and did not become law, as indicated on p. 271.

All things considered, Professor Reinsch's volume is an important addition to the literature of American politics. It is a contribution both to the understanding of the present situation and to the establishment of a better method for future studies of a similar character.

CHARLES EDWARD MERRIAM

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*Les droits législatifs du président des États-Unis d'Amérique.*

By HENRI BOSC. Paris: Libraire Nouvelle de Droit et de Jurisprudence, 1906. Pp. viii+286.

In the introductory chapter of this volume the author traces the principle of the separation of powers through the Constitutional Convention, analyzing the various arguments advanced on that occasion. In Part I he discusses the power of the President as a positive agent in initiating, shaping, and compelling legislation. He concludes that, in spite of the fact that the President lacks the formal right of initiative, and that he has no direct representatives in Congress, his influence is always considerable and sometimes great. In Part II the author considers the negative function of the President, or the veto power. A detailed examination of many cases is made, and the various vetoes are classified and analyzed. Here, however, the author adds little to the earlier and still valuable work of Mason on the *Veto Power*.

On the whole, Dr. Bosc shows a good grasp both of the theory and the practice of the presidential veto, and his discussion of the subject is decidedly meritorious.

CHARLES EDWARD MERRIAM

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*Race Culture; or, Race Suicide?* By ROBERT REID RENTOUL.

London: Walter Scott Publishing Co., 1906. Pp. 182.

The *Journal* has already published an article by Dr. Rentoul on the sterilization of degenerates, and the book here noticed is the second and enlarged edition of a book which appeared in 1903. The